

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 20, 2020

The Honorable William Barr
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Barr,

We write to share our concerns regarding the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives' (ATF) recent actions to limit third-party processors' ability to assist law-abiding Americans as they complete the National Firearms Act (NFA) eForms submission process. As members of Congress, we recognize that third-party processors provide taxpayers with a valuable service that benefits both the American people and the ATF's mission. As such, we respectfully request that you issue guidance ensuring ATF is working in collaboration with third-party processors to best serve the American people.

As you know, before ATF launched its NFA eForms system in 2014, third-party processors were able to assist taxpayers in completing and submitting all NFA applications in paper form. Given this long history of working in collaboration with ATF, third-party processors possess an intricate understanding of the ATF's forms and procedures. Allowing these companies to continue serving the public only simplifies the eForms submission process, provides an important level of quality control, and helps taxpayers overcome technical instability and scaling issues with ATF's current e-filing system.

ATF has previously acknowledged the important contributions third-party processors provide to the NFA eForms submission process and has assured third-party processors that they will work collaboratively on the next iteration of the eForms system. Additionally, in a letter dated October 22, 2019, 56 Members of Congress wrote to the ATF highlighting these benefits and urging Acting Director Lombardo to work with third-party processors to implement an e-filing system that allows these companies to assist the American people in exercising their Second Amendment rights.

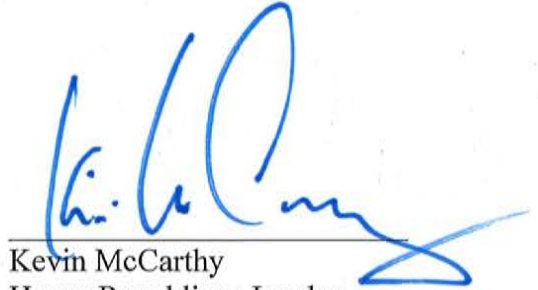
Despite these requests, ATF recently cited the Bureau's inability to authenticate applicants' electronic signatures and certifications as the basis behind limiting third-party processors' ability to assist taxpayers. The ATF's actions run contrary to Congressional intent and the Bureau's previous promises to work with third-party processors to address these concerns in order to best serve American taxpayers and reduce burdens on the ATF.

As such, we urge the DOJ to issue guidance clarifying how third-party processors can continue assisting taxpayers in completing the NFA eForms submission process. We also hope that DOJ will ensure ATF works directly with third-party processors as the Bureau redesigns its secure eForms system. Thank you in advance for your consideration of these requests.

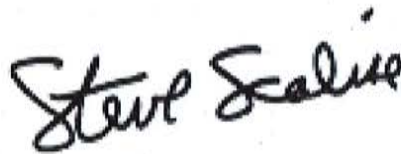
Sincerely,



Ken Buck
Member of Congress



Kevin McCarthy
House Republican Leader



Steve Scalise
House Republican Whip



Jim Jordan
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Doug Collins
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Matt Gaetz
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Mike Johnson
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Andy Biggs
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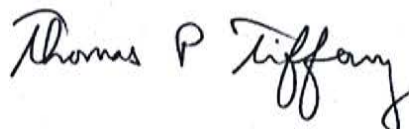
Ben Cline
Member of Congress



Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress



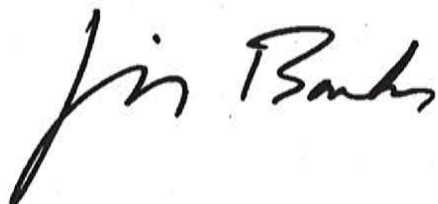
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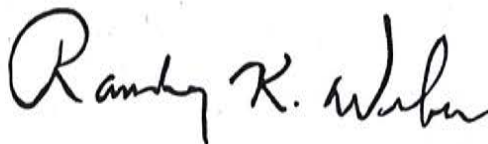
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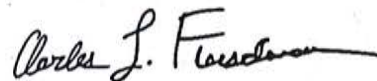
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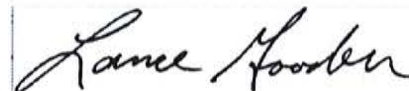
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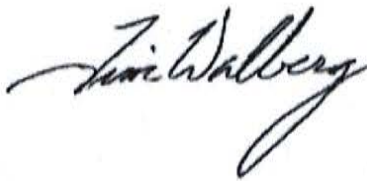
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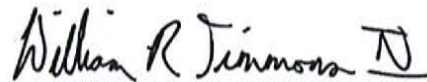
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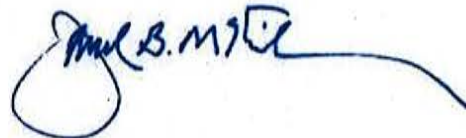
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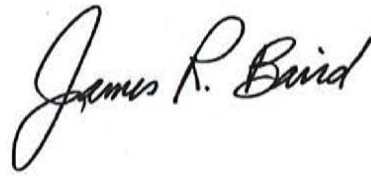
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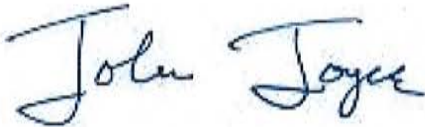
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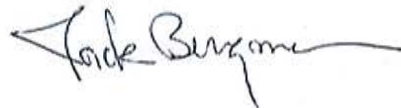
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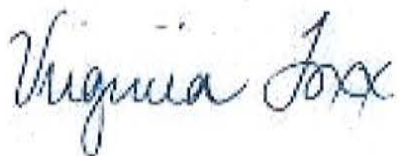
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